

Message Text

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C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 100284

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E.O. 11652:N/A

TAGS: ETRD, PL

SUBJECT: TEXTILES

FOR MICHAEL B. SMITH FROM MIMS

1. FOLLOWING IS COVERING MEMO TO PRESIDENT FROM DENT FOR
PRESIDENTIAL MEMO TRANSFERRING SPECIAL WORKING GROUP FROM
CIEP TO STR:

SUBJECT: TEXTILE TRADE POLICY GROUP

THE ATTACHED MEMORANDUM FOR YOUR SIGNATURE WOULD
TRANSFER THE GROUP THAT SETS GENERAL INTERNATIONAL
TEXTILE POLICIES FROM THE COUNCIL ON INTERNATIONAL
ECONOMIC POLICY (CIEP) TO THE SPECIAL TRADE REPRESENTATIVE'S
(STR) CHAIRMANSHIP. THIS HAS BEEN DISCUSSED WITH THE
INTERESTED AGENCIES AND OFFICIALS AND REPRESENTS A FURTHER
STEP IN RATIONALIZING THE INTERNATIONAL ECONOMIC
POLICY-MAKING AREA BY DIFFERENTIATING BETWEEN OVERALL POLICY
COORDINATION (CIEP) AND RESPONSIBILITY FOR SUPERVISING
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THE CARRYING OUT OF A PROGRAM ACTIVITY (IN THIS CASE,

STR).

/S/ FREDERICK B. DENT

DENT HAD ALREADY SIGNED THIS WHEN I FOUND OUT ABOUT IT ON MONDAY. HENCE, FIRST PART OF LAST SENTENCE IS FALSE, AND, IN MY OPINION, SECOND PART IS PURE BULL.

2. THE PRESIDENTIAL MEMO ESSENTIALLY IS THE SAME AS THE PREVIOUS ONE WHICH ESTABLISHED SPECIAL WORKING GROUP UNDER CIEPT, WITH TWO IMPORTANT ADDITIONS, FOLLOWING: DUTIES OF GROUP NOW INCLUDE, QUOTE
AUTHORIZE AND PROVIDE FOR THE NEGOTIATION OF BILATERAL AGREEMENT REGARDING INTERNATIONAL TRADE IN TEXTILES WHICH IT DETERMINES TO BE APPROPRIATE WITH REPRESENTATIVES OF GOVERNMENTS OF FOREIGN COUNTRIES.

THE COMMITTEE FOR THE IMPLEMENTATION OF TEXTILE

AGREEMENTS, ACTING THROUGH ITS CHAIRMAN, WILL CONTINUE TO SUPERVISE THE IMPLEMENTATION OF RIGHTS AND OBLIGATIONS OF THE UNITED STATES UNDER TEXTILE TRADE AGREEMENTS. UNQUOTE

3. I FOUND ABOUT THIS ON MONDAY AFTERNOON WHEN OMB CALLED TO ASK IF WE HAD SEEN THIS. I SAID I WAS ASTOUNDED, AND TO MY KNOWLEDGE NO ONE AT STATE HAD HAD A CHANCE TO COMMENT ON IT. I CHECKED WITH WHITE HOUSE AND DISCOVERED THAT DENT WANTED THIS TO GO FORWARD QUICKLY, AND THAT IT WAS DUE TO GO FORWARD TO PRESIDENT THAT NIGHT. SOUNDS A BIT SNEAKY DOESN'T IT? I INFORMED JULES, WHO HAD APPARENTLY JUST RECEIVED A COPY OF THE THING FOR COMMENT. HE MADE A PHONE CALL AND STOPPED IT. I ALSO MADE SEVERAL PHONE CALLS, INCLUDING WHITE HOUSE, WHO I TOLD IT MUST NOT GO FORWARD UNTIL WE HAVE A CHANCE TO COMMENT.

4. FIRST, THERE IS LEGAL QUESTION INVOLVED AS TO WHETHER OR NOT THIS MEMO, WITH ITS IMPORTANT ADDITIONS TO PREVIOUS ONE, CONFLICTS WITH AUTHORITY GIVEN TO SECRETARY
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OF STATE UNDER EXECUTIVE ORDER. PITMAN IS WORKING ON THAT.

5. SECOND, THERE IS QUESTION OF WHOSE IDEA THIS WAS AND WHO IS PUSHING IT. I HAVE CHECKED AROUND AND THE ONLY THING I HAVE BEEN ABLE TO COME UP WITH IS A CONFIRMATION OF THE OBVIOUS. THIS DOES CLEAR UP STATEMENT POLANSKY MADE SHORTLY BEFORE HIS DEPARTURE FOR

GENEVA, WHICH WAS VAGUE REFERENCE TO HAVING DRAFTED NEW EXECUTIVE ORDER TRANSFERRING PROGRAM TO DENT.

WE HAVE DISCOVERED THAT DENT IS HANDLING THIS ONE PERSONALLY, HOWEVER.

6. FINAL QUESTION IS WHAT DO WE DO NOW. I HAVE TALKED TO JULES, AND HE HAS SITUATION UNDER CONTROL. STRATEGY IS TO ENGAGE STR IN CONVERSATION. TO MY KNOWLEDGE, NO ONE THERE HAS YET TO CONTACT ANYONE AT STATE.

7. I WOULD APPRECIATE YOUR THOUGHTS, COMMENTS, AND SUGGESTIONS. KISSINGER

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